

Message Text

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44

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 VO-03 SCA-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 H-02 L-02 /031 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:NGANDREWS/LVA

APPROVED BY EUR:AAHARTMAN

H:KBJENKINS

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R 011656Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 101567

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CVIS, HU, RO

SUBJECT: DIVIDED FAMILIES - MESTERHAZY CASE

REF: BUDAPEST 1230

1. SZABOLCS MESTERHAZY CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN APRIL 30 TO REVIEW THE EFFORTS MADE ON BEHALF OF THE EMIGRATION OF HIS SON AND FAMILY AND TO EXPRESS DEEP MISTRUST BOTH OF GOH AND OF COMMUNIST AUTHORITIES IN OTHER COUNTRIES.

2. MESTERHAZY EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR EVERYTHING THAT HAS BEEN DONE TOWARD REUNIFICATION OF HIS FAMILY BUT WAS CRITICAL OF "QUIET DIPLOMACY." HE REFERRED TO HIS LETTER TO AMBASSADOR PEDERSEN OF JUNE 2, 1974 WHICH PRODUCED NO RESULTS. HE MENTIONED GOH INDICATIONS LAST DECEMBER THAT IT WOULD FAVORABLY CONSIDER A NEW APPLICATION BY HIS SON WHICH, HOWEVER, HAD BEEN TURNED DOWN. HE NOTED THAT LETTER FROM SENATOR HART TO AMBASSADOR SZABO A YEAR AGO HAD REMAINED UNANSWERED. ALTHOUGH HE SAID HE HAD NOT GIVEN UP HOPE OF SATISFACTORY OUTCOME OF HIS SON'S APPEAL, HE BUILT UP ARGUMENTATION FROM PERSONAL EXPERIENCE AND FROM HIS OBSERVATION OF WORLD EVENTS AS TO WHY HUNGARIAN COMMUNISTS

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AND OTHER COMMUNISTS COULD NOT BE TRUSTED AND HE CASTIGATED

THEM ALL FOR BROKEN PROMISES.

3. HARTMAN TOLD HIM HE WAS FULLY INFORMED ON STATUS OF HIS

SON'S CASE AND HAD RAISED IT HIMSELF WITH SZABO. HE ALSO INFORMED MESTERHAZY OF LATEST DEMARCHE (REFTEL). MESTERHAZY ASKED SEVERAL TIMES WHETHER NAGY HAD EXPLAINED WHY GOH HAD GONE BACK ON PREVIOUS INDICATIONS OF FAVORABLE ACTION AND WAS TOLD HE HAD NOT.

4. MESTERHAZY SAID HE WOULD TESTIFY BEFORE CONGRESS ON THE ROMANIAN TRADE AGREEMENT. IN RESPONSE TO DIRECT QUESTION, HE SAID HE DID NOT PLAN TO TESTIFY BEFORE A DECISION ON THE APPEAL WAS MADE KNOWN. AT THE TIME, HE DID NOT SEEM TO BE AWARE THAT HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS HEARINGS ARE SCHEDULED FOR MAY 7.

5. MESTERHAZY ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT HE HAS NOT RECEIVED LETTER FROM HIS SON SINCE APRIL 3. WOULD APPRECIATE NEWS THAT NOTHING IS WRONG. KISSINGER

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